

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-38. (Cancelled)

39. (New) A content distribution management system for circulating a content via a network, said system comprising a first communication terminal device, a second communication terminal device, a distribution management device, a communication exchange device and a content providing device,

wherein said first communication terminal device includes:

a content specifying unit operable to send search request information that indicates a request for a content search to said communication exchange device, to receive, from said communication exchange device, a search list that is a result of the content search, and to specify at least one content based on the received search list;

a content acquiring unit operable to send, to said second communication terminal device, distribution request information that indicates a request for a distribution of the specified content, and to receive the content from said second communication terminal device; and

a content purchasing unit operable to send, to said distribution management device, purchase request information that indicates a request for a purchase of the received content, and to receive copyright information of the content from said distribution management device;

wherein said second communication terminal device includes:

a content receiving unit operable to receive a content from said content providing device;

a content sending unit operable to receive the distribution request information from said first communication terminal device, and to send the specified content to said first communication terminal device based on the distribution request information; and

an intermediary information accepting unit operable to accept, from said distribution management device, intermediary information with regard to an intermediary fee of the content purchased by said first communication terminal

device;

wherein said communication exchange device includes

a content searching unit operable to receive the search request information from said first communication terminal device, to make a search based on the search request information so as to generate search result information that indicates at least one content, and to send the generated search result information to said first communication terminal device;

wherein said distribution management device includes:

a copyright management unit operable to receive the purchase request information from said first communication terminal device, to specify copyright information of the content to be purchased, based on the purchase request information, and to send the specified copyright information to said first communication terminal device; and

an intermediary information sending unit operable to determine details of an intermediary fee with regard to the purchase of the content by said first communication terminal device, based on the received purchase request information, and to send intermediary information with regard to the intermediary fee to said second communication terminal device; and

wherein said content providing device includes a content providing unit operable to provide at least one content to said second communication terminal device.

40. (New) The content distribution management system according to Claim 39, wherein:

the search list includes attribute information that indicates a characteristic of the content; and

said content specifying unit in said first communication terminal device is operable to assign a weight to the attribute information in the received search list, and to specify at least one content based on the weighted attribute information.

41. (New) The content distribution management system according to Claim 39, wherein:

the purchase request information includes intermediary terminal information that indicates a communication terminal device, as an intermediary device, which transferred the received content; and

said intermediary information sending unit in said distribution management device is operable to judge whether or not the purchase request information includes the intermediary terminal information, and to send the intermediary information to the communication terminal device when judging that the purchase request information includes the intermediary terminal information.